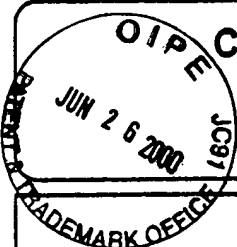


GAU 3725

PTO/SB/29 (2/98)

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA) REQUEST TRANSMITTAL

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing.

(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d))

CHECK BOX, if applicable:

☐ **DUPLICATE**

Address to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box CPA
Washington, DC 20231

Attorney Docket No.

First Named Inventor

Toshiaki Kanemitsu

Examiner Name

Group / Art Unit

Express Mail Label No.

This is a request for a ☒ continuation or ☐ divisional application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d),
(continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 08 /669,313
filed on July 8, 1996, entitled SHEET METAL MEMBER HAVING AN ANNULAR...MEMBER.

NOTES

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. A Notice will be placed on a patent issuing from a CPA, except for reissues and designs, to the effect that the patent issued on a CPA and is subject to the twenty-year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 154(a)(2). Therefore, the prior application of a CPA may have been filed before, on or after June 8, 1995.

C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the other application or applications in the file jacket.

35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a).

1. ☐ Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2. ☒ A preliminary amendment is enclosed. Response filed February 1, 2000
3. This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d)(4).
 - a. ☐ DELETE the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

06/27/2000 SLUANG1 00000074 08669313

01 FC:231
 - b. ☐ The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. ☐ A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.
5. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - a. ☐ PTO-1449
 - b. ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

(Page 1 of 2)

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box CPA, Washington, DC 20231.

(37 C.F.R. § 1.18(c))

- No. 14881

The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below.

RECEIVED
JUN 11 1964
TO SECRETARY

11. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED